

20000715.qrp v01_n883.qrl.20000715

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 19:03:12 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1883

QRP-L Digest 1883

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [75125] AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
by Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
- 2) [75126] RSGA rpt. for 14JUL
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 3) [75127] WR Review of NorCal W6JJZ BLT
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 4) [75128] Re: Project Update - Black Widow support (long)
by WB3LGC@aol.com
- 5) [75129] Vibroplex speed adjustments
by Michael Bower <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
- 6) [75130] Source of AFA chips for NC20
by Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
- 7) [75131] last of the log-cell series
by "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
- 8) [75132] Re: *HUGE* X6 FLARE!
by Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
- 9) [75133] Re: FOX: Preliminary results for N 5 Time Wrong
by Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
- 10) [75134] WTB: Front panel for Analog Argosy
by Dave Redfearn <n4elm@home.com>
- 11) [75135] SMK-1
by "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
- 12) [75136] Project Update - Too Simple Solar controller (Long)
by Dave Redfearn <n4elm@home.com>
- 13) [75137] FOX Notice for Tomorrow, Sunday 7/16/00
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 14) [75138] OT: Hams need help
by Shepherd@aol.com
- 15) [75139] Re: Project Update - Too Simple Solar controller (Long)
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 16) [75140] [Q] New Jersey QRP website missing(?)
by Ken Hopper <khopper@uchicago.edu>
- 17) [75141] Want: Crystal Radio Set
by WA6GER@aol.com
- 18) [75142] 10m OPEN!
by Tom and Roxy <zikot@erie.net>
- 19) [75143] Re: DSW rig modifications

- by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 20) [75144] Connector standards
by tailfeathers@juno.com
- 21) [75145] Contest Announcement
by Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
- 22) [75146] Re: FOX Notice for Tomorrow, Sunday 7/16/00
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 23) [75147] Re: Want: Crystal Radio Set
by Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
- 24) [75148] RE: Connector standards
by "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
- 25) [75149] Re: SMK-1
by NB6M@aol.com
- 26) [75150] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
by Hendricks <AL70K@arrl.net>
- 27) [75151] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
by Hendricks <AL70K@arrl.net>
- 28) [75152] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
by Vince Werber <kaliic@ime.net>
- 29) [75153] Re: Connector standards
by KD1YV <kd1yv@mindspring.com>
- 30) [75154] [Summary] NJQRP Club website found
by Ken Hopper <khopper@uchicago.edu>
- 31) [75155] Re: Connector standards
by Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
- 32) [75156] Re: Connector standards
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 33) [75157] SMK-1
by "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
- 34) [75158] Heathkit manual ?
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 35) [75159] Brockport Amateur Radio Klub Field Day Summary: K2BRK/3A/WNY
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 36) [75160] PROP Aurora potential
by "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
- 37) [75161] Ft. Tuthill/ AZ highway destruction sites/AZ Repeaters url
by jaywa5whn@juno.com
- 38) [75162] Re: PROP Aurora potential
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 16:01:32 -0800
From: Jim Larsen AL7FS <al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>
To: "qrp-l@lehigh.edu" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [75125] AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
Message-ID: <396FA9DC.7C7AEAA7@pobox.alaska.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings from Alaska,

Just for fun I thought I would let you all know what the bands are like up here right now in Alaska. There is not one signal on 20 meters from 14.000 to 14.350 MHz...that's the whole band. This was at 0000Z. I also checked 15 meters...also not one signal anywhere. The bands haven't been this dead in several years. Apparently polar absorption is real. :-)

This, too, shall pass.

73, Jim

--

Jim Larsen, AL7FS, Anchorage, Alaska
QRP-L CD Ver. 3 available: <http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/QRP-CDver3.htm>
QRP ARCI #6754 Check out <http://www.qrparci.org/>
<http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/> <mailto:al7fs@pobox.alaska.net>

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 18:16:16 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: gqrp@onelist.com
Subject: [75126] RSGA rpt. for 14JUL
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10007141735320.4303-100000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,

I've waited all solar cycle for an X7, but an X6 comes close. And just my luck, some personal affairs suddenly came up that will require me to fly to Colorado for the weekend, so I may not be able to be on email until monday. Rats. So I have heavily commented today's solar/geophysical report in attempt to explain what is happening and what you can expect to see over the next few days.

I apologize for such a lengthy post, but have no choice since I'll be QRT for a few days. I have also received lots of email asking me questions about this activity from both QRP-L and G-QRP, for which I've tried to answer here since I don't have time to answer personally. Sorry. But whether this is your first solar cycle, or just another one, this is the activity we all hear about. So don't want you to miss it :-)

> JOINT USAF/NOAA REPORT OF SOLAR AND GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY
> SDF NUMBER 196 ISSUED AT 2200Z ON 14 JUL 2000

> IA. ANALYSIS OF SOLAR ACTIVE REGIONS AND ACTIVITY FROM 13/2100Z
> TO 14/2100Z: SOLAR ACTIVITY WAS HIGH. REGION 9077 (N18W09) PRODUCED
> AN X5/3B X-RAY EVENT AT 14/1024Z. THIS EVENT HAD AN ASSOCIATED 3000
> SFU TENFLARE, A TYPE II SWEEP WITH A SPEED OF APPROXIMATELY 1300
> KM/S, AND A STRONG TYPE IV SWEEP. THE SOHO/LASCO IMAGERY INDICATES
> A FULL HALO, EARTH DIRECTED CME FROM THIS EVENT.

SFU = Solar Flux Units 1 SFU = 1×10^{-22} watts

TYPE II SWEEP: radio emissions caused by the shockwave traveling through the sun's magnetic field. Emissions start around 300 MHz and go downward as the shockwave gets farther from the sun. The speed at which the lower frequencies are heard is used to calculate the speed of the shockwave. In this case, 1300 km/sec, or fairly strong. This means the average travel time to the earth will probably be around 900 km/sec. A 900 km/sec shockwave hitting our magnetosphere WILL cause major to severe geomagnetic storming, sometime sunday. On planet earth, a Type II sweep on HF would sound like "pops" in your receiver or kinda like ignition noise.

TYPE IV SWEEP: this is radio emissions over a huge chunk of the spectrum simultaneously ... that is, "continuum emissions." Here on planet earth, it will sound like elevated noise from HF through VHF. (I.e., "hiss" even on VHF circuits).

The full halo CME simply means millions of tons of solar mass is heading towards the earth, as confirmed by satellite imaging. So not only will we be hit sunday with a blast of increased solar wind, but with solar mass bunched up behind it as well to truly "squish" our magnetic field for a major storm. Lots of this mass (protons) will flow along our field lines and dump into the polar regions ... keeping the HF blackout (Polar Cap absorption event) in the upper latitudes going and fuel the auroras.

> IB. SOLAR ACTIVITY FORECAST: SOLAR ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE
> AT MODERATE TO HIGH LEVELS. REGION 9077 AND 9085 AND 9081 (N02E29)
> HAVE POTENTIAL TO PRODUCE M-CLASS EVENTS. ANOTHER MAJOR EVENT IS
> POSSIBLE FROM REGION 9077.

The 3 X-class flares from region 9077 has not yet weakened this area. Thus, it has plenty of potential of producing more major flares over the next few days.

> IIA. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY FROM 13/2100Z TO 14/2100Z:

> THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD WAS QUIET TO MAJOR STORM. ONE ISOLATED PERIOD
> OF MAJOR STORMING OCCURRED FROM 14/1500-1800Z. THIS IS BELIEVED TO
> BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE X1/2B EVENT ON 12 JULY. THE X-CLASS EVENT
> DESCRIBED IN PART 1A. PRODUCED PROTON EVENTS AT THE GREATER THAN 10
> AND 100 MEV WHICH REMAIN IN PROGRESS AT THIS TIME. THE GREATER THAN
> 100 MEV CROSSED THE EVENT THRESHOLD OF 1 PFU AT 14/1040Z, REACHED A
> PEAK FLUX OF 310 PFU AT 14/1310Z, AND HAS BEGUN TO DECLINE. THE
> GREATER THAN 10 MEV CROSSED THE 10 PFU EVENT THRESHOLD AT 14/1050Z,
> AND HAS NOT YET PEAKED (HIGHEST FLUX OBSERVED SO FAR WAS 8370 PFU AT
> 14/1850Z). THE PCA ASSOCIATED WITH THIS FLARE BEGAN AT ABOUT
> 14/1041Z, PEAKED AT 28.0 DB, AND REMAINS IN PROGRESS. THIS X5 EVENT
> PRODUCED THE SECOND GROUND LEVEL EVENT (GLE) OF THE SOLAR CYCLE
> (LAST GLE IN NOVEMBER, 1997). THE THULE, GREENLAND NEUTRON MONITORS
> MEASURED THE GLE BEGINNING AT 14/1036Z, PEAKED WITH ABOUT A 36%
> INCREASE ABOVE BACKGROUND AT 14/1043Z AND APPEARS TO HAVE ENDED AT
> 14/1415Z. MULTIPLE SHORT DURATION MAGNETOPAUSE CROSSINGS WERE
> OBSERVED ON GOES-8 (W074) FROM 14/1740Z TO APPROXIMATELY 14/1810Z
> AND 14/1915Z TO 14/2000Z.

With most flares, the protons are carried along with the shockwave and solar wind, arriving at Earth 2-3 days later. When they hit our magnetic field, they flow along the field lines and dump into the polar regions, as described above.

However, with very energetic major flares, the protons are driven outward from the sun at near relativistic velocity (speed of light) and arrive at earth from minutes to a couple of hours later. In today's X6 flare, the relativistic protons got here in 15 minutes, ripping right through our magnetic field and into our atmosphere ... in fact, they made it all the way to the ground (hence, the Ground Level Event (GLE) mentioned above). This is fairly rare for solar protons to reach the earth's surface.

The intensity of these protons is clearly seen on the proton monitors on the GOES satellite at: www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html. They are still at very high (energetic) levels.

These protons entering our atmosphere at about the speed of light become ionizing energy in itself, stripping electrons off our nitrogen and oxygen molecules, making gobs of free electrons, or highly ionizing our E and F. However, this high density also attenuates even VHF signals, even "line of sight" stuff near the ground, since this ionization took place to near ground level. So if you were using any VHF circuits today, you might have heard wild signal strength swings and fading (QSB) as you would on HF, from 2M, business radios, cell phones, etc.

Also, all grown men over 45 will now lose their hair. (Well, I need an excuse why mine's falling out!). Just tell your wife it's all due to that "ground level event" thing.

> IIB. GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY FORECAST: DUE TO THE EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF
 > AN EARTH-DIRECTED FULL HALO CME FROM THE X5/3B EVENT MENTIONED ABOVE
 > IN 1A. THE GEOMAGNETIC FIELD IS EXPECTED TO SEE AN INCREASE DURING
 > THE LATTER HALF OF THE FIRST DAY. MAJOR TO SEVERE STORM LEVELS ARE
 > POSSIBLE AFTER THE STORM ONSET THROUGH THE SECOND DAY OF THE PERIOD.
 > BY LATE ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE PERIOD ACTIVITY SHOULD START TO
 > DECREASE TO ACTIVE TO MINOR STORM CONDITIONS.

First day = saturday

Second day = sunday ... SEVERE storm levels

> III. EVENT PROBABILITIES 15 JUL-17 JUL
 > CLASS M 80/80/80 <-----
 > CLASS X 30/30/30 <-----Very high chances of more flares
 > PROTON 99/99/99 <-----
 > PCAF IN PROGRESS

PCA (Polar Cap Absorption): the numbers I've seen this afternoon show
 28-33dB attenuation to HF signals in effect. Don't expect to work
 Alaska, Norway, etc. this weekend! Or for that matter, southern
 Australia, New Zealand, etc. (same thing on the southern poles).

> IV. PENTICTON 10.7 CM FLUX
 > OBSERVED 14 JUL 204
 > PREDICTED 15 JUL-17 JUL 200/195/195
 > 90 DAY MEAN 14 JUL 184

> V. GEOMAGNETIC A INDICES
 > OBSERVED AFR/AP 13 JUL 018/033
 > ESTIMATED AFR/AP 14 JUL 025/036
 > PREDICTED AFR/AP 15 JUL-17 JUL 060/075-100/130-050/060
 ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
 SAT SUN MON
 YUCK!!

AURORA OUTLOOK.

It is not known what extent sunday's shockwave from today's X6 will have
 on the aurora, in terms of how far south it will occur. BUT, this is
 the largest flare and likely the strongest shockwave to hit us yet. The
 last good hit in June sent aurora's visable into the southern US states.

There may be auroral activity this evening around the US/VE border
 and saturday night. Sunday night it will likely dip well into the US.
 If the shockwave arrives late saturday night, then saturday night may
 be spectacular as well. Hard to say ... but DEFINITELY worth looking
 for if you are in a position to. Best time around local midnight.
 Again, this is the LARGEST flare/shockwave to hit the earth this solar

cycle, so don't miss it if you can.

AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND. We have several QRP-L friends "down under," so should mention this all follows for them as well. The current auroral oval shows aurora hitting the extreme southern tips of Australia/NZ. Saturday/sunday this aurora will extend much farther to the north, perhaps well into the mainland of those countries, into South America, etc.

72, Paul NA5N

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 19:19:35 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [75127] WR Review of NorCal W6JJZ BLT
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20000714191935.007bf3e0@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRP-Lers,

Nice review of the NorCal W6JJZ BLT antenna tuner kit by Richard Fisher, KI6SN, in the August 2000 issue of World Radio Magazine. Somewhat tutorial about the ins and outs of Z-Match tuners too, especially those designed by Charlie Lofgren.

Chuck Carpenter, Point, Rains County, Texas -- EM22cv, RARA #003
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 20:33:02 EDT
From: WB3LGC@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75128] Re: Project Update - Black Widow support (long)
Message-ID: <50.81b8e4f.26a10b3e@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 7/14/00 12:35:48 AM Eastern Daylight Time, n4elm@home.com writes:

> While still lagging behind the pack in project progress, I did manage to
> score a 20' Black Widow pole from ...

I guess I in the same "fix"... I got my Black Widow as a pre-valentines day gift from my wife. I am just getting the time to do something with the fishing pole. I found a different way to support the pole.

I used a heat gun (paint stripper) to heat the end cap enough to remove it. I then scraped the excess glue off the pole (to make it look nice) and it fits nicely into 1 1/4" PVC pipe. I found a piece of 5/16" stainless rod (~12" long) and threaded one end and pointed the other. I made a hole in the center of an 1 1/4" end cap and with nuts & washers mounted the rod to the end cap. The cap was then glued to a 12" peice of 1 1/4" PVC pipe. The whole thing sticks into the ground and does a very nice job of supporting the pole.

I also wanted to mount the pole to the roof of my pop-up camper. For this job, I used another 1 1/4" PVC pipe. It's just long enough to go from the ground to above the side of the roof. Above the roof line I drilled a 1/2" hole through and used a piece of nylon rope (it was handy) looped around and through the hole enough to keep the pole from going any further down.

Since I don't want to spend \$60 for a adjustable loading coil, I plan on making one for 80m and one for 40m using the info from a BASIC program called "reduce". It will calculate loading coil info for dipoles. (I don't have the info at home on who wrote it, I'll add that next time).

73, Steve

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 20:37:05 -0400
From: Michael Bower <bowerm@ix.netcom.com>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [75129] Vibroplex speed adjustments
Message-ID: <396FB231.7927433B@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I received a well worn vibroplex original key in the mail today. I expected it to be well-worn as I was warned.

I am going to need to order parts anyway so I have a question.

The parts guide at www.vibroplex.com lists three different speed weights. Mine came with a small weight and the speed is VERY FAST.

Does anybody have any info on what speed weights are needed for what speeds? I'd like to order the correct one.

TIA

Michael

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 20:46:08 -0400
From: Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75130] Source of AFA chips for NC20
Message-ID: <396FB450.AC0CB675@tampabay.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone know where these chips came from? The usual suspects are closed for the summer or on vacation and I need to get one of these chips.

Any ideas?

Thanks
Paul AJ4Y

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 20:49:04 -0400 (EDT)
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, gqrp@onelist.com, towertalk@contesting.com, antennas@qth.net, antennaware@contesting.com
Subject: [75131] last of the log-cell series
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10007142046280.3868-1000000@moe.cas.utk.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The last of the log-cell Yagi series in NCJ has now appeared and has been placed at my site, along with the usual monthly new items. However, a study of long-boom potentials for the log-cell Yagi, which have largely been ignored in amateur literature, will appear in some future issue of QEX.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL	/\	/\	*	/	/	/	Tel: (865) 938-6335
1434 High Mesa Drive	/	\	\	/	/	/	http://www.cebik.com
Knoxville, Tennessee	/\	\	\	/	/	/	e-mail: cebik@utk.edu
37938-4443 USA	/	\	\	/	/	/	e-mail: w4rnl@arrl.org

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 18:35:41 -0700 (MST)
From: Chris Trask <ctrask@primenet.com>
To: "George , W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75132] Re: *HUGE* X6 FLARE!
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.96.1000714182404.22046A-100000@usr05.primenet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Since a number of people asked, I went and found that book that discusses the ionosphere affecting power lines. My memory had the title of the book backwards, showing that a middle-aged mind is a terrible thing to rely on. The book is:

Kikuchi, H. (ed), "Power Line Radiation and Its Coupling to the Ionosphere and Magnetosphere," D. Reidel Publishing Company, 1983, ISBN 90-277-1541-6.

This book is a collection of selected papers from the Fifth International Wroclaw Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility, and were originally published in Space Science Reviews (1983) 5-6.

There are two papers that directly address the topic of geomagnetic storms affecting power lines:

Pirjola, R., "Induction in Power Transmission Lines During Geomagnetic Disturbances," pp. 185-194

Boerner, W.M. et al, "Impacts of Solar and Auroral Storms on Power Line Systems," pp. 195-206.

The references at the end of both of these papers give even more information.

Chris Trask

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> Paul, thank you for taking time to give us yet another timely and
> informative warning.
>
> I would like to ask a very naive question, for a retired EE. But all my
> professional life has been spent with computer systems and electronics -
> never was able to get too excited over the "cast iron electronics" as we
> called the "power" courses in undergraduate school.
>
> What is the relationship between the type of sun-related activity that we
> have been experiencing and our national power grid system? More to the
> point, what is the mechanism that could cause what sorts of power grid
> problems?
>
> Appreciate the time and all the effort you put into QRP in general.
>
> 72/73, George      W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
> Fairview, TX      30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county      QRP-L 1373
> Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 54th year and it just keeps getting better!
> R/C since 1964 - AMA 98452      RVing since 1972      Kachina #91900556
> (12/99)
>
>
> "Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:
> >
> > Gang,
> > Just got to work, checked things, and there was a
> > HUGE X6 (X5.7 to be exact) FLARE at 1003 UTC 14 JUL
> > from region 9077, which is the HUGE region sitting nearly
> > smack in the center of the sun. This is important, because
> > solar activity from near the center of the sun will have a
> > trajectory that will certainly hit the earth.
>
```

[illegible]

Chris Trask / N7ZWY
Principal Engineer
Sonoran Radio Research
P.O. Box 25240
Tempe, Arizona 85285-5240

IEEE Member #40274515

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Email: ctrask@primenet.com
<http://www.primenet.com/~ctrask>

Graphics by Loek Frederiks

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 22:40:19 -0400
From: Rick Sealey <rsealey@InfoAve.Net>
To: n5tw@igg-tx.net
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75133] Re: FOX: Preliminary results for N 5 Time Wrong
Message-ID: <4.1.20000714221601.009606a0@mail.infoave.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Nice log, Tom. Sorry for your UTC problems.

It brings an idea to mind about the recently mentioned Radio Shack clock, cat. no. 63-959, currently on sale. This is one of the best clocks I've seen for the ham shack as it can be set for 24hr time and displays the day and date for the time set. So once it is set properly to UTC, it pretty much doesn't have to be touched again until battery replacement time. Nice clock.

By the way, I've seen the same model under a different brand at the Target stores at a lower price than the standard Radio Shack price (which it is worth, IHMO.)

Rick - W4SEA
High Point, NC

At 03:25 PM 07/14/2000 -0500, Tom Whiteside wrote:
>Ok, below is the preliminary log - please send me any corrections! Thanks
>for the workout and thanks for the many kind comments on my dumb mistake on
>the time!!!! You are a forgiving group and it is appreciated! We had
----- SNIP -----

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 21:58:04 -0500

From: Dave Redfearn <n4elm@home.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75134] WTB: Front panel for Analog Argosy
Message-ID: <396FD33C.F51E9F85@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Looking for a front panel for a Ten-Tec Argosy I (Analog).
Does not have to be mint, minor scratches or wear will be considered.
(I'd be surprized if it was worse than the one I have).

Price according to condition.

73 - Dave

=====

Dave Redfearn, ARS N4ELM, McKinney, TX
Email: n4elm@NOJUNKhome.com (to reply, remove NOJUNK)
QRL? de N4ELM/qrp

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 21:37:18 -0700
From: "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75135] SMK-1
Message-ID: <020201bfee16\$5fa05ee0\$d5142aa2@bobbaxte>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group, Finally got my SMK-1 up and running and am monitoring a 6 land
qso as I write. The only down side is the side tone volume level is
about 150 decibels. Does anyone have a fix to attenuate the sidetone
level. A note to future builders of this rig----take off the headphones
when you test the transmitter. Thanks in advance. Bob Baxter AA7EQ

Date: Fri, 14 Jul 2000 23:50:20 -0500
From: Dave Redfearn <n4elm@home.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75136] Project Update - Too Simple Solar controller (Long)
Message-ID: <396FED8C.B191ECA0@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Boy! Texas sure does get hot outside in the summer!

So, I have a 12 V, 5 Amp Gell Cell and a surplus solar panel - 21 Vdc open circuit, 300 Ma shorted and I want to hook these up and make a small solar system to occasionally to run the radio gear. 300 ma from the solar panel is enough to run a QRP radio in receive like a Sierra or maybe a K2 and still push some electrons into the battery to provide extra current when transmitting.

The basic hook-up was to connect the solar panel through a diode to the battery and then the radio to the battery.

In use, I have found that with the radio turned on, the battery terminal voltage never went above 13.5 - 14 Vdc and after a couple of transmissions, the battery terminal voltage would hang around 13 Vdc or so.

However, if the battery is near full charge and the radio is turned off, on a sunny day the battery terminal voltage could swing up past 15 Vdc (I manually disconnected the solar panel at this point). I felt that over 15 Vdc would very likely damage the radio gear if it was connected and then turned on.

I thought about using a voltage regulator like a LM317 (set for 13.8 VDC) between the solar panel and the battery but it seemed like the ~3 volt overhead for the regulator would cause problems in lower light conditions when the panel voltage was less than ~ 17 Vdc. A low drop-out regulator may work for this but I have not tried one yet.

Anyway, what I came up with is a crude shunt regulator using a zener diode. Zener diodes have been used as low current shunt regulators for many years. As a regulator, a zener will conduct, shunting any voltage that exceeds its marked rating through it up to its rated current capacity. If its current capacity is exceeded long enough, it will probably fail as an open circuit (but I have not tested this, yet).

It turns out that basic math indicated that a 5 watt zener would dissipate the 300 ma from the solar panel. I picked 14 Vdc as the upper voltage limit (high enough to charge the battery, low enough to prevent "smoking" the gear). I picked up several different values between 13.6 and 14.5 Vdc and experimented some.

The best setup was comprised of a silicon diode in series between the solar panel and battery (to prevent the battery from discharging through the panel) and a 1N5351 5 watt, 14V zener across the battery to regulate

the panel voltage. With the 1N5351 the battery terminal voltage would not rise above 14.1 Vdc even with a panel voltage of 21 Vdc. The zener is a high resistance for voltages below 14 Vdc and conducts heavily for voltages above 14.1 Vdc. This is demonstrated by the fact that as the panel voltage exceeds 14.1 Vdc, the battery terminal voltage stays at 14.1 Vdc and the zener warms up quite a bit.

On the final circuit, I used a 1 amp silicon diode in series with the panel and two 1N5351 zener diodes across the battery (some extra safety margin). These were mounted on a small PC board that plugs onto the battery terminals and provides some binding post connections for the solar panel and external power connections.

While this crude shunt regulator cannot fully replace a regular solar panel charge controller, it does have a couple of advantages for this application:

1. It has no effect on the circuit for battery terminal voltages up to 14 Vdc.
2. It will regulate the solar panel voltage to 14.1 Vdc.
3. It is cheap.

Remember, your mileage may vary.

73 - Dave

=====
Dave Redfearn, ARS N4ELM, McKinney, TX
Email: n4elm@NOJUNKhome.com (to reply, remove NOJUNK)
QRL? de N4ELM/qrp

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 00:29:36 -0600
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu, cqclist@cqc.org
Subject: [75137] FOX Notice for Tomorrow, Sunday 7/16/00
Message-ID: <396FB070.25805.88F440@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Larry, WJ1R, will be the Fox on Sunday, 7/16/00 starting at 2000Z. I make that 2pm MDT, 3pm EDT, 4pm EDT, and 1pm PDT, but if that's wrong, blame me not Larry. It absolutely will be 2000Z.

He's asked me to post this notice because his written English leaves a bit to be desired and he wanted to be sure there was no confusion over starting time, etc.

Larry will be operating from Aurora, CO using a Yaesu FT-920, outboard audio filter, and a GAP Titan vertical antenna. He's 3 for 3 as a hound so far, so you know he can work 'em.

He says he will start very close to 14.060, depending on QRM, and he will be listening up and down as much as 2KHz if the size of the pileup dictates, so spread 'em out-- but remember you have an obligation not to QRM others who are not in the Fox Hunt. Procedurally the only thing a bit unusual is that he may try to work short "lists," that is, if he hears two or three callsigns he may try to work all three one after the other. So listen! (actually that last is MY comment, not Larry's.... I tried that last winter and found there were usually stations calling again even though I was trying to work somebody else).

Propagation looks pretty unpredictable at this time, and with a bit of luck the Sunday hunt will fit in neatly between solar magnetic storms. If not, be patient-- you can be reasonably sure that if you can hear Larry he can hear you, and will work you.

Good luck!

Marshall Emm, N1FN
Milestone Technologies, Inc.
(303) 752-3382
<http://www.mtechnologies.com>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 08:05:45 EDT
From: Shephed@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75138] OT: Hams need help
Message-ID: <31.78be56c.26a1ad99@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry in advance to whom ever gets mad, but it is our fellow Hams needing help:

Subject: Help - Naval Academy ham radio club in danger!
From: k3for@aol.com (K3for)
Date: 07/14/2000 10:33 PM Eastern Daylight Time
Message-id: <20000714223331.20048.00000255@ng-fj1.aol.com>

Help!

I am looking for other Naval Academy graduates or US Naval personnel who can assist me in saving the amateur radio club at USNA.

I have been the officer rep for the past 2.5 years, but a decision was just made in the past 48 hours (over the summer while the mids are conveniently out at summer training or on leave) without notice or discussion, to disestablish the station W3ADO (also Navy MARS station NNN0NNN). Perceived lack of participation, lack of knowledge of our various missions and accomplishments ("oh, ham radio is dead..."), and funding probably played a role.

Mailing address for support letters:

Captain Sam Locklear, USN
Commandant of Midshipmen
101 Buchanan Road
US Naval Academy
Annapolis, MD 21402

cc me at:

Ryan "Skip" Johnson
510 Norton Lane
Arnold, MD 21012
k3for@aol.com
if you can

Or if you can't write a letter, please email me something and I will forward it to the Deputy Commandant by email.

Thank you ! I only hope its not too late -- I have to run down there and see if they've thrown out the gear already...

73's
Skip/K3FOR
Navy MARS NNN0PEK
Annapolis

72, 73, oo's
Dan, N8IE Kettering, Oh
FPqrp #-6, QRP-1 #1404, FISTS #4985, Zombie #667 SOC #284
<http://members.aol.com/shephed/n8ie.htm>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 07:15:41 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>

To: n4elm@home.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75139] Re: Project Update - Too Simple Solar controller (Long)
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20000715071541.007be7d0@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Dave,

Wait 'till you've been here a few years, you won't even notice it... 8^)
(ex K20FN from WNY who still notices it after 25+ yrs.)

I use a 3-terminal regulator with my 10 W and 50 W solar panels to keep the voltage down to a manageable level. I also have a 4 A voltage controller that works OK with lots of sunlight. Neither are too useful if you want to keep current drain down though. And, as you pointed out, the low-light condition causes other problems. I just manually switch the panels out of the circuit when needed.

It's cooler out here in E TX though -- none of that Dallas concrete jungle heat build-up out here in the woods...

Chuck Carpenter, Point, Rains County, Texas -- EM22cv, RARA #003
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 08:07:27 -0500
From: Ken Hopper <khopper@uchicago.edu>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75140] [Q] New Jersey QRP website missing(?)
Message-ID: <3970620F.657477C2@uchicago.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have been unable to find the New Jersey QRP Club site for two days. Their DNS entry seems to be replaced with vRAMP(?). I am using this URL <http://www.njqrp.org/>

I cleared my cache and tried two different browsers with no success.

They are about to announce their PSK-80 transceiver kit and I don't want to miss a single word of info.

Any clues? suggestions? RTFM?
tnx de Ken N9VV QRP-L #1915 QRP/ARCI #10021

<n9vv@arrl.net> <http://www.qsl.net/n9vv/>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:47:55 EDT
From: WA6GER@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75141] Want: Crystal Radio Set
Message-ID: <a7.5aab53b.26a1c58b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Want older set, catwhisker fine. I read that pyrite is better than galena for short waves. Short waves on a crystal radio? Inquiring minds, etc.

Thanks much!

jim, WA6GER

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:49:47 -0400
From: Tom and Roxy <zikot@erie.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [75142] 10m OPEN!
Message-ID: <3.0.5.32.20000715094947.007b7d20@erie.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRP-L DE WA1VAI

10m Band Opening

At 9:30am EST I heard N2XS in QSO on 10m. QRZ.COM shows N2XS in NY? Looks like 10m is trying to open. At 9:36am I am hearing KP4's and W4's. If anyone would like to try a QSO, QRP or QRO, into PA I am on 10m. Email me or contact me via AOL IM, user id WA1VAI.

It seem to me that it would be a good idea to coordinate QRP work if members had AOL Instant Messenger so they could chat real time? I am presently waiting for Dan, N8IE, to come on AOL IM so I can try to work him to give him PA for QRP WAS.

For those that don't know about AOL IM it is a free real time internet chat service. You can create what is called a "buddy" list of people that you want to be notified if they come online. No one can contact you via AOL IM unless you give them your user name. You can also setup

multiple user names for various purposes, i.e. I use WA1VAI for Ham only contacts and have another id for family and friends.

73's es gud DX!

Tom & Roxanne
WA1VAI/3
Erie, PA.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 08:02:38 -0700
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: ae5x@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75143] Re: DSW rig modifications
Message-ID: <39707D0D.BAD1D4EC@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

John AE5X wrote:

>
> I want to thank Mike KK5F and Bruce N7RR for passing along their
> modifications for DSW rigs. I have posted them on my page and will soon
> be adding mods for the Wilderness SST and NC-40A rigs as well.
>

Good!

> John Harper, AE5X
> HW-9, OHR-100A/20, NC40A, SST/30, SST/40, DSW/20
> Outdoor QRP <http://www.qsl.net/ae5x>

>
> -----
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
> Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 11:05:16 -0400
From: tailfeathers@juno.com

To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75144] Connector standards
Message-ID: <20000715.110900.-4041417.0.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Guys! I am into my 4th kit now and am discovering that different manufacturers seem to use different connectors for power, keys, etc. Is there 1 particular standard that is most often used so I could maybe change to it as the kit is being built? Its getting hard trying to hook it all up.

Gary
n8gsj

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Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 08:36:02 -0700
From: Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu, azqrp@extremezone.com, elecrafft@qth.net
Subject: [75145] Contest Announcement
Message-ID: <200007151532.IAA19632@enterprise.extremezone.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

THE GREAT FT TUTHILL TUNA TIN 2 SPRINT

Announcing the Great Ft. Tuthill Tuna Tin 2 Sprint, sponsored by
the Arizona ScQRPions QRP club.

Here's a 'special' sprint that you can work and have fun with as builder/
operators of Tuna Tin 2 rigs attempt to contact the outside world from
the Ft. Tuthill Hamfest on Saturday, July 29, 2000. Use it as a warmer-
upper for the next day's Bumblebee 'test.

Date: July 29, 2000
Time: 2000-2400 UTC

The contest is a single-op QRP CW sprint. Contact as many CW stations
as possible on 40 Meters. Stations may be worked only once.

Suggested QRP Frequencies:

7.040 +/- . This is important, as all of the Tuna Tin 2 rigs are rock bound, and will not move much from this frequency. Actually, 7.039 would probably be your best bet.

Exchange:

RST, first name, and QTH. Tuna Tin 2 Ops at Ft Tuthill will use FT as QTH. All others use two-letter State/Province abbreviation.

QSO points:

2 points per QSO with any station using FT as the QTH. One point for all other contacts.

Raw score is total QSO points.

Prizes will be awarded for the highest overall total score attained by a Tuna Tin 2 Operator at Ft. Tuthill, and for the highest overall score attained by a 'foreign' operator (not located at FT).

Logs:

Operators at Ft. Tuthill will submit their logs immediately on completion of the contest at the ScQRPions hamfest site. Other entrants must submit logs within one month after the sprint to to Bob Hightower NK7M. Logs must clearly state rig used, and maximum power out.

Submit e-mail messages with attached logs in text format to nk7m@extremezone.com or snail mail to:

Bob Hightower
1905 N. Pennington Drive
Chandler, AZ 85224-2632

Results will be posted to QRP-L as soon as possible after August 30, 2000. Late entries (received after 8/30/2000) will not be considered.

Good luck to all, and let's try to make this a fun one. We probably won't do this one again :^)

Bob Hightower NK7M
Chandler, AZ
SOC #20
K2 #157/255

<http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:37:40 -0600
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: "Walt Amos" <waltk8cv@surfree.com>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75146] Re: FOX Notice for Tomorrow, Sunday 7/16/00
Message-ID: <397030E4.15844.7374D@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Hi, Walt--

>>Maybe 3 PM CDT ?<<

Just checking to see if anybody would actually read it [g].

Marshall Emm, N1FN
Milestone Technologies, Inc.
(303) 752-3382
<http://www.mtechnologies.com>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 08:52:56 -0700 (PDT)
From: Steve Yates <aa5tb@yahoo.com>
To: WA6GER@aol.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75147] Re: Want: Crystal Radio Set
Message-ID: <20000715155256.7046.qmail@web3005.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Jim,

Here are a couple of crystal radio resources that you
may find intereseting:

<http://www.glynn.k12.ga.us/~opool/XTAL/default.htm>

<http://www.midnightscience.com/>

=====

73,

Steve Yates - AA5TB
Fort Worth, TX - EM12gs
<http://www.geocities.com/aa5tb>
aa5tb@arrl.net

Do You Yahoo!?
Get Yahoo! Mail Free email you can access from anywhere!
<http://mail.yahoo.com/>

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:27:43 -0700
From: "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
To: "'tailfeathers@juno.com'" <tailfeathers@juno.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75148] RE: Connector standards
Message-ID: <131CE266CAD0D211B3550008C7C9A2D51CBC75@arcadia-pd1.arcadiapd.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Gary and QRPists:

Connector standardization is a pet peeve of mine, and I am sure, to many other QRPists. A lot of "connector choice" may be personal preference, following the herd, or good 'ol Amateur cheapness. It would make some sense for manufacturers to at least attempt a connector standard- consumers would buy more stuff and connect it together!

Personally, I dislike RCA and SO239 connectors.

Someone will come up with a perfectly good miniature or trail-friendly QRP kit and then ruin it with a HUGE SO239! Another might use RCA connectors... I'd almost rather trip over a wire and break something than have a cheap connector fall off in the dark at the wrong moment. I think Heathkit, TenTec and a few others had a "thing" for the Reception Cancelling Actuator (RCA) connector as well.

I think some kit manufacturers have tried to standardize by using BNC antenna connectors, ?? millimeter "coaxial" power connectors and 1/8" stereo jacks for key/keyer and phones. I believe EMTECH who manufactures a ZM-2 Z-match tuner uses "paired" combination banana jack posts in their tuner. The posts allow use of a paired banana plug and balanced line for fast disconnect.

That's a neat idea for tuners in TFR QRP stations. I suspect the connectors debate will go on for a long time- cults of Fahnstock (sp?) clip fanatics duking it out with RCA true believers and Cinch-Jones disciples :-)

At least a few kit manufacturers offer circuit boards without mandatory

enclosures and this allows the builder to use their own connectors and case layout.

72

Jay

W6CJ

-----Original Message-----

From: tailfeathers@juno.com [mailto:tailfeathers@juno.com]

Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2000 8:05 AM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Connector standards

Hello Guys! I am into my 4th kit now and am discovering that different manufacturers seem to use different connectors for power, keys, etc. Is there 1 particular standard that is most often used so I could maybe change to it as the kit is being built? Its getting hard trying to hook it all up.

Gary

n8gsj

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 12:53:51 EDT

From: NB6M@aol.com

To: rbaxter@cybertrails.com

Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [75149] Re: SMK-1

Message-ID: <94.72a298a.26a1f11f@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bob,

Looking back over emails about the SMK-1, jumpering D5 did take care of the loud sidetone problem. Worth a try.

72

Wayne NB6M

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:25:08 -0800
From: Hendricks <AL70K@arrl.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [75150] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
Message-ID: <39709E73.AC484ED1@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Even the QRO+ shortwave broadcast stations have signals that are unreadable from 6 MHz on up.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 09:26:17 -0800
From: Hendricks <AL70K@arrl.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [75151] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
Message-ID: <39709EB8.7C1F72D4@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Even the QRO+ shortwave broadcast stations have signals that are unreadable from 6 MHz on up.

John Hendricks, AL70K in Anchorage, Alaska
QRP convert except when the propagation goes away.

Date: Sun, 16 Jul 2000 13:45:56 -0700
From: Vince Werber <ka1iic@ime.net>
To: AL70K@arrl.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75152] Re: AL7FS *HUGE* X6 FLARE! propagation above 61 degrees North
Message-ID: <39721F04.560D@ime.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hendricks wrote:

>

> Even the QRO+ shortwave broadcast stations have signals that are

> unreadable from 6 MHz on up.

Hi all,

I tuned up to 10 mhz for WWV and I received WWV & WWVH & RWM, time signals. All had about the same signal strength here in Maine! PooR!

72

Vince

ka1iic

-.--.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 13:40:07 -0400
From: KD1YV <kd1yv@mindspring.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75153] Re: Connector standards
Message-ID: <3970A1F7.5E6B43B@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I couldn't believe how many different sizes there are just of those pesky coaxial power connectors. I had to make a panic run to Radio Shack last Saturday night at 20:45 because I found that the DSW-20 I had borrowed had an odd-sized power connector.

When I got to RS, the sales droid directed me to a demo display of a gaggle of short wire stubs all with power connectors attached. I had to find the mate to my connector (fortunately, I brought the radio). The letter-designator on that one then directed me to the bubble pack with the correct sized connector adaptor. The point is that there must have been at least 20 of those that were coaxial power connectors.

--

72/73 de Jim, KD1YV

The wonderful thing about standards is that there are so many to choose from!

"Coote, Jay" wrote:

> Gary and QRPists:

> Connector standardization is a pet peeve of mine, and I am sure,
> to many other QRPists. A lot of "connector choice" may be personal
> preference, following the herd, or good 'ol Amateur cheapness.
> It would make some sense for manufacturers to at least attempt

> a connector standard- consumers would buy more stuff and connect
> it together!
> Personally, I dislike RCA and SO239 connectors.
> Someone will come up with a perfectly good miniature or trail-friendly
> QRP kit and then ruin it with a HUGE SO239! Another might use
> RCA connectors... I'd almost rather trip over a wire and break something
> than have a cheap connector fall off in the dark at the wrong moment.
> I think Heathkit, TenTec and a few others had a "thing" for the
> Reception Cancelling Actuator (RCA) connector as well.
> I think some kit manufacturers have tried to standardize by using BNC
> antenna connectors, ?? millimeter "coaxial" power connectors and 1/8"
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> manufactures a ZM-2 Z-match tuner uses "paired" combination banana jack
> posts in their tuner. The posts allow use of a paired banana plug and
> balanced line for fast disconnect.
> That's a neat idea for tuners in TFR QRP stations. I suspect the
> connectors debate will go on for a long time- cults of Fahnstock (sp?)
> clip fanatics duking it out with RCA true believers and Cinch-Jones
> disciples :-)
> At least a few kit manufacturers offer circuit boards without mandatory
> enclosures and this allows the builder to use their own connectors and
> case layout.
> 72
> Jay
> W6CJ

> -----Original Message-----

> From: tailfeathers@juno.com [mailto:tailfeathers@juno.com]
> Sent: Saturday, July 15, 2000 8:05 AM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Connector standards

> Hello Guys! I am into my 4th kit now and am discovering that different
> manufacturers seem to use different connectors for power, keys, etc. Is
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> change to it as the kit is being built? Its getting hard trying to hook
> it all up.

> Gary
> n8gsj

> -----
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
> Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 14:32:04 -0500
From: Ken Hopper <khopper@uchicago.edu>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75154] [Summary] NJQRP Club website found
Message-ID: <3970BC34.220CA7B5@uchicago.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thank you Dave! This alternative site is up:

=====

Hello Ken:

Try this URL for the New Jersey club:

<http://waterw.com/~njqrp/> <-----

I tried it a few minutes ago and it seems to work.

73 and good luck;

Dave

David Bixler W0CH VK2IQX

Seneca Missouri QRP-L # 618

<http://www.qsl.net/w0ch/>

QRP: Minimum power, maximum fun

=====

de Ken N9VV

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 14:37:22 -0500
From: Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
To: kd1yv@mindspring.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75155] Re: Connector standards
Message-ID: <3970BD72.5D02@companet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

KD1YV wrote:

> I found that the DSW-20 I had borrowed had an odd-sized power
> connector.

I don't know if "odd" would properly characterize the DSW connector.

I'm able to use the same plug I use on the DSW on my MFJ over-size QRP rigs, my MFJ Cubs, my RH NC-20, My MFJ SWR analyzer, every radio shack scanner I have, my antenna tuners (meter lamps), my flourescent camp lantern, my Sony portable shortwave receiver, my Uniden shortwave receiver, one of my older 2-m HTs, my old Model 100 computer, and probably some other things I'm forgetting right now.

Same plug, for all of the above. The DSW connector is thus not too "odd" at my station, anyway.

73,

Mike / KK5F

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 12:47:13 -0700
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: mmorrow@companet.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75156] Re: Connector standards
Message-ID: <3970BFC1.6F377C91@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mike,

I took the "odd" to mean not the standard DSW power socket.

In any case, I'm with you. I use the same power supply and plug for all my qrp rigs (K2, Sierra, NC-40A, SST-30/40, DSW-20 and pretty much efverything else.

The really odd power socket is the one in my RigBlaster. But it came with its own WallWart, so that's OK.

Phil

Mike wrote:

>

> KD1YV wrote:

>

> > I found that the DSW-20 I had borrowed had an odd-sized power
> > connector.

>

> I don't know if "odd" would properly characterize the DSW connector.

> I'm able to use the same plug I use on the DSW on my MFJ over-size QRP

> rigs, my MFJ Cubs, my RH NC-20, My MFJ SWR analyzer, every radio shack

> scanner I have, my antenna tuners (meter lamps), my flourescent camp
> lantern, my Sony portable shortwave receiver, my Uniden shortwave
> receiver, one of my older 2-m HTs, my old Model 100 computer, and
> probably some other things I'm forgetting right now.
>
> Same plug, for all of the above. The DSW connector is thus not too
> "odd" at my station, anyway.
>
> 73,
> Mike / KK5F

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 13:09:38 -0700
From: "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75157] SMK-1
Message-ID: <001401bf6ee98\$9f650260\$39142aa2@bobbaxte>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group, I replied off line to the fellows who helped me with the
sidetone problem but would like to put the results on line in case it
might help someone along the way. Everyone pointed to D5 and Q1 as the
possible culprits and suggested removing D5, which I did, but no help.
It was also suggested I check voltages on other transistors and since Q5
provides a ground for Q1 I checked it first and found the collector
voltage was zip. After touching all connections with the soldering
iron, to no avail, I held a jumper between them and, voila, success. I
soldered the jumper in and it all works wonderful---325 mw out. Thank
you group---you made my day. Bob Baxter AA7EQ Bisbee, Az.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 16:16:50 EDT
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [75158] Heathkit manual ?
Message-ID: <20000715.161706.4255.0.kc8aon@juno.com>

Gang,

Sometime back before Heathkit's demise they marketed an HF rig that was
the same as the Yaesu FT-747GX. Does anyone on the list know what the
model number was and does anyone have a spare copy of the assembly manual

or photo copy they could part with ? Please reply direct and off the list and thanks in advance.

73...Rick McKee KC8AON { CW lives as long as I do ! }
Willow Wood, Ohio "oo's"
AR QRP # 269 QRP-L # 2112 ZOMBIE # 718 FPqrp # 33
TriState BrassPounders # 1

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 16:39:42 -0400
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75159] Brockport Amateur Radio Klub Field Day Summary: K2BRK/3A/WNY
Message-ID: <20000715.163945.-203219.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A bit late, but this might be the last QRP Field Day for the Klub for a bit. The next FD chair wants to run 100 watts next year just to see how many more Q's we can get.

We will see, and by June 2001 maybe I can change his mind...

Here's the Klub's summary sheet:

ARRL Field Day

1. Field Day Call Used: K2BRK
2. Club or Group Name: Brockport Amateur Radio Klub
3. Field Day Location: Bergen, NY
4. Check if you began setup prior to 1800 UTC Saturday: X
5. Number of people participating in this operation: 13
6. Number of transmitters in simultaneous operation: 3

7. ARRL/ Canadian Section: WNY

8. Entry Class: A

9. Power Source:

Generator

Battery X

Commercial Mains

Other

10. Callsign of Novice/Tech Station:

11.

	CW	Digital	SSB
160	0	0	0
80	0	0	42
40	50	0	28
20	105	3	13
15	0	0	12
10	0	0	10
6	0	0	13
2	0	0	0
1.25	0	0	0
70	0	0	0
33	0	0	0
23	0	0	0
Subtotals	155	3	118
Novice Totals	0	0	0
Totals	155	3	118

Maximum power used: 5 Watts

12. Total

CW QSO's 155 X 2 = 310

Digital QSO's 3 X 2 = 6

Phone QSO's 118 X 1 = 118

Total QSO Points: 434

13. Total QSO points 434 X power multiplier 5
equals claimed score less bonus points: 2170

14. Bonus Points:

100% Emergency Power X

W1AW Field Day Message

Media Publicity
Messages Relayed No.
Location in a public place X
Satellite
Information Booth X
Natural Power
Message to SM
Other
Non-traditional Mode

Please enclose log, photos, comments, ideas, etc. with your entry and mail promptly to: ARRL Contests, 225 Main Street, Newington CT 06111.

Internet: fieldday@arrl.org
Anonymous FTP: ftp.arrl.org
WWW: www.arrl.org

I have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations for Amateur Radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

Date _____ Signature _____ Call _____

16. Full Mailing Address

Name: William Keith Hibbert Call:WB2VUO
Address: 41 N. Lake Ave
Bergen, NY 14416
Email Address: wb2vuo@arrl.net

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 16:08:31 -0600
From: "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
To: "ncarc-l" <ncarc@qth.net>, "qrp-l" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [75160] PROP Aurora potential
Message-ID: <001901bfeea9\$38251020\$1a8611d8@compaq>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

AURORA ALERT!

>From SpaceWeather.com:

Space Weather News for July 15, 2000

A powerful shock wave from the fast-moving July 14th coronal mass ejection has arrived in the neighborhood of Earth. An extreme geomagnetic storm was underway at 1900 UT (3:00 p.m. EDT) on July 15th. If conditions persist as they are now, aurora could be visible at middle (and possibly even equatorial) latitudes. The best time to view aurora is usually near local midnight. In this case, sky watchers are advised to look for aurora as soon as night falls. For more information and updates please visit <http://www.spaceweather.com>

Readers are invited to send pictures of tonight's aurora and the July 16, 2000, total lunar eclipse (visible across the Pacific Ocean) as an email attachment to phillips@spacescience.com for possible posting on [spaceweather.com](http://www.spaceweather.com) and/or [spacescience.com](http://www.spacescience.com).

72/3 Rod, N0RC -- Fort Collins, CO

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 16:30:09 -0600
From: jaywa5whn@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [75161] Ft. Tuthill/ AZ highway destruction sites/AZ Repeaters url
Message-ID: <20000715.163010.-559767.0.jaywa5whn@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Updated AZ highway destruction map.

<http://www.azfms.com/HCRS/arizona.html>

Repeaters enroute {AZ}

<http://home.flash.net/~teslakid/azrepeaters/>

The Doug & Paul map + or - 66 feet

<http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m/tutmaps.htm>

13 days left. 5,000+ Hams enroute to Ft. Tuthill. {Nerds/cubic ft > 1}
;-)

CU there...Jay, WA5WHN DM65qd Albuquerque, NM USA

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 15 Jul 2000 17:54:21 -0500

From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>

To: n0rc@qsl.net

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [75162] Re: PROP Aurora potential

Message-ID: <3970EB9C.C236BA20@swbell.net>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

"Rod, N0RC" wrote:

>

> AURORA ALERT!

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> coronal mass ejection has arrived in the neighborhood
> of Earth. An extreme geomagnetic storm was underway
> at 1900 UT (3:00 p.m. EDT) on July 15th. If conditions
> persist as they are now, aurora could be visible at
> middle (and possibly even equatorial) latitudes. The
> best time to view aurora is usually near local midnight.
> In this case, sky watchers are advised to look for aurora
> as soon as night falls. For more information and updates
> please visit <http://www.spaceweather.com>

Six and two meters have been experiencing major Auroral opening for past two or three hours. Signals at times have been peaking 40 db over S9.

Usually when I can hear stations via Aurora, they are very weak. Almost like ESP. Not today.

With K index up to 9. Its time to get on six and two and work and enjoy the fun. Best dx so far was working Colorado from St. Louis. Have worked 25 or so stations. Have heard the east coast. All of this on two meters. wow. Did I mention my antenna is an Eggbeater (omnidirectional) up 15 feet?

73 de Dave, N0IT

End of QRP-L Digest 1883

